

House Resolution 170

By: Representatives Drenner of the 86th, Benfield of the 85th, Gardner of the 57th, and Henson of the 87th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Creating the Joint Solid Waste Trust Fund Study Committee; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the natural environment is a precious resource of this state and its protection is
- 3 a crucial component to the future prosperity of Georgia; and
- 4 WHEREAS, the director of the Environmental Protection Division of the Department of
- 5 Natural Resources is charged with primary responsibility for the solid waste management
- 6 program, including implementation of the policies outlined in the "Georgia Comprehensive
- 7 Solid Waste Management Act" and the coordination of activities with those of other state
- 8 agencies and local political jurisdictions to achieve a unified and effective solid waste
- 9 management program in the state; and
- 10 WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Division implements the solid waste management
- 11 program through the use of the Solid Waste Trust Fund which is funded by the fees collected
- 12 on the sale of new replacement tires in Georgia; and
- 13 WHEREAS, the fee will sunset on June 30, 2005, if not reauthorized by the General
- 14 Assembly; and
- 15 WHEREAS, the rate of solid waste disposal in Georgia landfills is increasing; and
- 16 WHEREAS, the majority of solid waste is being disposed in privately owned landfills,
- 17 resulting in the transfer of waste over long distances and an increase in litter along Georgia's
- 18 roads and streams; and
- 19 WHEREAS, many local governments lack resources to monitor and care for old and
- 20 abandoned landfills, to provide infrastructure to reduce the amount of waste going to
- 21 landfills, or to investigate and abate illegal dumps that are found in their jurisdictions; and

1 WHEREAS, a sound infrastructure for recycling supports Georgia industries that utilize
2 recovered materials for raw materials, and attracts new industries dedicated to a sustainable
3 environment; and

4 WHEREAS, a study should be undertaken to assist the General Assembly in determining
5 appropriate funding for the Solid Waste Trust Fund.

6 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
7 GEORGIA that there is created the Joint Solid Waste Trust Fund Study Committee to be
8 composed of five members of the House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker
9 of the House of Representatives and five members of the Senate to be appointed by the
10 Senate Committee on Assignments. The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall
11 designate a member of the House and the Senate Committee on Assignments shall designate
12 a member of the Senate who shall serve as cochairpersons of the committee. The committee
13 shall meet at the call of the cochairpersons. The committee may conduct such meetings at
14 such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or convenient to enable it to exercise
15 fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and accomplish the objectives and
16 purposes of this resolution. The legislative members of the committee shall receive the
17 allowances provided for in Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated.
18 Funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from the funds
19 appropriated to the Senate and the House of Representatives. The expenses and allowances
20 authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any member of the committee for more
21 than five days unless additional days are authorized.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the conditions,
23 needs, issues, and problems described above and recommend any actions or legislation that
24 the committee deems appropriate. The committee shall make a report of its findings and
25 recommendations to the General Assembly with suggestions for proposed legislation, if any,
26 no later than December 1, 2005. The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2005.